

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: June 9, 2011

Agenda Item: Proposed HB454 Hunter Access Agreement

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Approval of Proposed Agreement

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 15 minutes

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Background: Under the provisions of 87-2-513 MCA, FWP received the authority to issue either-sex or antlerless elk permits to landowners for management purposes. The landowner must offer free public elk hunting, meet the various conditions of the statute, and enter a contractual public elk hunting access agreement with FWP.

The contract defines the areas open to public elk hunting, the number of elk hunting days that will be allowed on the property, and other factors that FWP and the landowner consider necessary for the proper management of elk on the landowner's property.

At time of this writing, a potential new agreement is being explored for the first time with the N-Bar Ranch in HDs 411 and 530. Confirmation and definition of any proposed access agreement is pending.

Public Involvement Process & Results: If a proposal is identified and adopted at the June 9 Commission meeting, public comment will run through 5 PM Monday, June 20 with any final adoption scheduled July 14.